METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR UPDATING

UNIVERSAL REMOTE DATABASES THROUGH TV VBI PROCESSING

Abstract

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Universal remote control device database is updated

through television video blanking interval (TV VBI) or

sub-picture signal processing.   As relayed through TV

receiver, remote control database(s) is placed in VBI or

10   sub-picture of video signal of specialized program. Data is

decoded by VBI slicer or controller (e.g., MPEG decoder),

then extracted and stored temporarily in memory. Upon

request, data is transmitted via infra-red (IR) or radio-

frequency (RF) emitter to learning remote control device,

15   which downloads data to update remote programming

protocol.